

CITY GARAGE116-118-120 EAST MAIN STREET

The old City Garage, a monument to the early, glory years of the automobile, today, decays on the south side of East Main Street, to the east of that street's intersection with Westminster Avenue. Built around 1920, the significance of the City Garage is architectural, but is also to a large extent is possibly unique, certainly rare, in Westminster, in that, normally, professional men would have their offices either in their home or physically joined to it. Bond was one of the very few here to have his office as a separate building.

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

CAYL 325
0703754711

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

1 NAME

HISTORIC

City Garage

AND/OR COMMON

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

116-118-120 East Main Street (MD 32)

6

CITY, TOWN

Westminster

___ VICINITY OF

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

Carroll

STATE

Maryland

COUNTY

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY

___ DISTRICT

☒ BUILDING(S)

___ STRUCTURE

___ SITE

___ OBJECT

OWNERSHIP

___ PUBLIC

☒ PRIVATE

___ BOTH

PUBLIC ACQUISITION

___ IN PROCESS

___ BEING CONSIDERED

STATUS

☒ OCCUPIED

___ UNOCCUPIED

___ WORK IN PROGRESS

ACCESSIBLE

☒ YES: RESTRICTED

___ YES: UNRESTRICTED

___ NO

PRESENT USE

___ AGRICULTURE

☒ COMMERCIAL

___ EDUCATIONAL

___ ENTERTAINMENT

___ GOVERNMENT

___ INDUSTRIAL

___ MILITARY

___ MUSEUM

___ PARK

___ PRIVATE RESIDENCE

___ RELIGIOUS

___ SCIENTIFIC

___ TRANSPORTATION

___ OTHER

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME

C. T. Muse et.al

Telephone #: 848-4149

STREET & NUMBER

326 Fair Avenue

CITY, TOWN

Westminster

___ VICINITY OF

STATE, zip code

Maryland 21157

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Carroll County Office Building

Liber #: 603

Folio #: 465

STREET & NUMBER

Center Street

CITY, TOWN

Westminster

STATE

Maryland

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

None

DATE

___ FEDERAL ___ STATE ___ COUNTY ___ LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

7 DESCRIPTION**CONDITION**

☐ EXCELLENT
☐ GOOD
☒ FAIR

☐ DETERIORATED
☐ RUINS
☐ UNEXPOSED

CHECK ONE

☐ UNALTERED
☒ ALTERED

CHECK ONE

☒ ORIGINAL SITE
☐ MOVED DATE _____

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The old "City Garage", a monument to the early, glory years of the automobile, today sits in near ruin on the south side of East Main Street, to the east of that street's intersection with Westminster Avenue, in Westminster. The building's principal (north) facade sits back, separated from the street by a concrete paved area (originally used for gas pumps etc.). The facade seems divided into three sections of unequal size and importance. In the center is a large recessed door leading to the interior of the garage; this is set off by brick pilasters which rise to a Romanesque arched corbel table which runs above the entire facade. One nicely proportioned urn rests above the eastern pilaster. The other two sections resemble each other in treatment, but differ in scale. Each has a pair of rising metal garage doors, and each is topped by a continuation of the corbel table (old photographs show how the place was also used as a showroom). The western section, however, is longer; this difference is accentuated by a centrally placed (between the 2 doors) squared finial dropping from the corbelling; an urn, identical to that already mentioned, marks the spot in the skyline. The eastern section is similar but smaller scaled and unadorned. The entire facade is laid in common bond brick, originally unpainted, but now painted a peeling white.

A continuation of the corbelling continues above the west facade, which fronts the side street. The facade is divided by brick pilasters into 10 equal sections (corbelling only tops the first two of these). There are large many-paned metal-transomed "garage" windows in the center of all but sections 1, 2, and 9; sections 1 and 2 are blind, and section 9 has a set of large, metal sliding doors.

The north and east facades seem lower (the building is built into a small hillside) and are utilitarian - no arched corbelling, no pilaster, no urns, only an occasional randomly-placed window.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

8 SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD		AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)	
		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> INVENTION			

SPECIFIC DATES	c. 1920	BUILDER/ARCHITECT	Weaver/family
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STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The significance of the "City Garage" is architectural, but it is also, as noted in question 7, to a large extent symbolic. That the Weavers, who had owned the land since Civil War days, chose to build a garage/service station in such a flamboyant style clearly indicates a feeling of optimism about the then-dawning Automobile Age. It seems comparable, if not identical, with the spirit that made the railroad companies build their grand stations a generation or so earlier. The City Garage may not be larger than strict utilitarianism would require, but it is certainly more elaborate, with its pilasters, urns, and Romanesque corbel table.

Its 1976 decaying condition seems just as open to symbolic interpretation. We have lost our enchantment with the "benzine buggy"; it is, to say the least, no longer an object of wonder and love. Present day garages are generally more functional, less romantic in design, as benefits the automobile's new status.

David Weaver sold the 8,910 square feet of land, including the garage, for \$9,900 on January 27, 1926 to H. Vernon Harbaugh and Ezra W. Harbaugh; Carroll County Deed Book 146, Page 482. H. Vernon sold his 1/2 interest to Ezra in 187/321 (August 29, 1945), who died on February 13, 1974. His personal representative, C. Thomas Muse (LWT 21/818) sold the land to himself in deed 603/465, September 16, 1975. Muse holds title today.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY _____

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

Being all of lot 18 and the westerly half of lot 17 in the town of New London, on the southeast corner of the intersection of East Main Street and Westminster Avenue in Westminster.

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE

COUNTY

STATE

COUNTY

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

Christopher Weeks, Consultant

December, 1976

ORGANIZATION

DATE

Westminster Historical Sites Survey

STREET & NUMBER

TELEPHONE

c/o City Hall- Public Works Department

CITY OR TOWN

STATE

Westminster

Maryland

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature, to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 Supplement.

The Survey and Inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

RETURN TO: Maryland Historical Trust
The Shaw House, 21 State Circle
Annapolis, Maryland 21401
(301) 267-1438

44%



CANK 375

City Gauge

118 E. Main

..B.. Section

44 10

B-6

69%



#196 69%

also see

CARR 375 inv

P.114

CLXXXVI

CARR 375 inv?

CARR 375

CITY GARAGE

WESTMINSTER

NEW JERSEY

CARR 375 2/77



CARR 375

116 E. Main St

"City Garage"

Westminster

W facade

c. week 12/76



CARR 375

116 E. Main - City Garage

Westminster

~~116~~ NW Jacobs

c. 1925 (?)

195

118%

P.H. 2
114

City Garage